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ABSTRACT

This text examines the characteristics that define autism: impairments in communication; abnormal social development; and clinically significant odd behaviors. Specific chapters include: (1) "Neural Mechanisms in Autism" (Andrew W. Zimmerman and Barry Gordon); (2) "Epidemiology of Autism and Other Pervasive Developmental Disorders: Current Controversies" (Peter Szatmari and Jeremy Goldberg); (3) "Clinical Practice Guidelines: The New York State Experience" (Donna M. Noyes-Grosser); (4) "A Neuropsychological Approach to Language Intervention in Autistic Children" (Michelle Dunn and Mary Joan Sebastian); (5) "Stereotypies and Repetitive Behaviors in Autism" (Marco A. Grados and Daria McCarthy); (6) "Diagnostic Issues in Autism" (Pasquale J. Accardo); (7) "Experimental Design and Cumulative Research in Early Behavioral Intervention" (O. Ivar Lovaas); (8) "Pragmatic Language Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders" (Rebecca Landa), which discusses assessment of pragmatic language skills, intervention, and instructional methods; (9) "The Savant Syndrome in Autism" (Darold A. Treffert); (10) "The Broad Autism Phenotype" (Joseph Piven); (11) "Seizures, Landau-Kleffner Syndrome, and Autistic Regression: Differential Diagnosis and Treatment" (John F. Mantovani); (12) "Neuropharmacological Therapy in Autism" (Andrew W. Zimmerman and others); (13) "Parent and Family Issues: Stress and Knowledge" (Martin A. Kozloff and John S. Rice), which discusses areas and benefits of family participation, behavior modification approaches, and evaluating a child's education program; and (14) "Autism: Summary of Selected Decisions" (Brooke R. Whitted). (Individual chapters contain references.) (CR)

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